The squinches form pointed arches, of two chamfered orders. The style of the church is Perpendicular, and the whole appears to be of nearly the same date; probably about the middle of the fifteenth century. The nave has aisles and a clerestory, and is divided into four bays by shafted piers. The chancel and transept are low and short as compared with the nave. The aisles, south porch, and north transept, have an elegant parapet of openwork, a feature very common in this county. In the angle between the chancel and north transept is a low square stair-turret, communicating with the tower by a passage. The tower has two tiers of windows, the upper ones of two lights with a transom, the lower, single lights with a very deep splay. The parapet is embattled, and the whole is finished with a small low spire covered with lead. The font is rather curious.

Stoke Gregory is about 9 miles south-east of Bridgewater. On our way we notice the fine western tower of Weston Zoyland; by a slight detour we may take Middlezoy, which has also a handsome tower, Othery, a cross church with a lofty central tower, and the picturesque ruined chapel of Burroughbridge, situated on an abrupt mound near the junction of the Thone and Parret. About 4 miles beyond is North Curry, which has been mentioned, and from this the route may be continued, in one direction to Ilminster, or in another to Taunton, both affording specimens of the highest architectural richness and beauty.

JOHN LOUIS PETIT.

INAUGURATION OF THE WEST LONDON SYNAGOGUE OF BRITISH JEWS.

A NEW synagogue has just been erected from the designs of Mr. D. Mocatta, in Margaret-street, Cavendish-square. It appears that this congregation, formed in 1842, and located until the present time in Burton-street, have adopted changes in the ritual which, if they are as was explained in a discourse delivered on the occasion by the Rev. D. W. Marks, are certainly improvements. The increasing number of the congregants who have joined this body, has been the cause of a new building being necessary. The inauguration service, which was performed a few days ago, consisted of chaunting of hymns by the choir, the introduction of, and depositing, the rolls of the Law in the ark, &c., and was not without interest.

The present building is divided into two parts for the sittings,—wide galleries round three sides, for the ladies, capable of holding 150 persons,—and the ground floor for gentlemen, arranged with benches, in rows on both sides, leaving the space in the centre open, accommodates 250 persons. The synagogue has residences connected with it for the two ministers, besides other conveniences. The design is simple, in the form of a square, and consists of Ionic columns, supporting the gallery, from whence rises a second order of columns, which receive semi-circular arches. These are crowned by a bold cornice, over which is a lantern light. Although the general character of the edifice is modest, yet most of the parts which form the architectural features are ornamented. The ark has features of design that are new, and composes cleverly with the semi-circular arches which hang as pendants before it, and complete the fourth side of the building; the steps, platform, stylobate, and columns which form the design, are all of scagliola, surmounted by a decorated entablature, which supports a niche head, in which is placed the tablets of the Ten Commandments, surrounded and shadowed by the palm leaf.

The total cost of the building, including the repairs and part rebuilding of the houses, was about 4,000*l.*

LONDON UNIVERSITY.—After the delivery of Mr. Donaldson's concluding lecture on the 19th inst. to the students in the classes of architecture for the present session, the senior student of the classes made a gratifying address to the professor, and offered to him, in the name of the class, a parallel ruler, with silver mountings, as an earnest of their appreciation of his exertions and kindness.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, DERBY.

MESSRS. BARRY AND BROWN, ARCHITECTS.

ON the 11th inst., the first stone was laid of a church in memory of the late Dr. Shirley, Bishop of Sodor and Man. Our engraving gives a view of the church as it will appear when completed. It is in the decorated, or middle pointed style, cruciform in plan, and consists of a chancel, nave, north and south transepts, north aisle, north porch, and tower at north-east angle of chancel and transept, with vestry at south-east angle. It is intended to seat six hundred worshippers on the ground floor, without a gallery.

The church will stand east and west, having the chancel and north-east tower facing the road.

Owing to the marshy nature of the site, a substratum of concrete is formed under all the walls; and this, as we are told, is laid on the surface without removing the turf.

The walls are to be built of Little Eaton stone, with Duffield stone dressings and window tracery. The roofs are all to be open-timbered, stained, and varnished.

Messrs. Barry and Brown, of Liverpool, are the architects. The execution of the works has been undertaken by Mr. Wood, a townsman, for the inadequate sum of 1,750*l.* The contractor would seem to be actuated by another motive than that of making money.

BOILER EXPLOSIONS: CAUTION TO STEAM-ENGINE TENDERS.—At Bishopwearmouth Iron-works, recently, a boiler exploded, ascending 60 feet in the air, the roof above it being scattered in all directions, and several of those in the streets adjoining riddled with stones and brick. The engine-man was killed.—At Wolverhampton, lately, an engine tender, employed at the Shrubbery Iron-works, was committed to hard labour for a month, on evidence led that he had got drunk, and allowed the water to get so low in the boiler as to render an explosion probable. It was his first offence, and he had promised it would be his last. The magistrate threatened a severer punishment should a similar case be hereafter proved before him.

ON THE BUILDING MATERIALS EMPLOYED IN PARIS AND IN THE VALLEY OF THE LOWER SEINE.*

2nd. *Brick and Tiles.*—In Paris, the use of bricks is entirely confined to carrying up the flues, and turning the trimmers to the hearths. The best that are employed are the bricks made in the department of l'Yonne, known under the name of the "Brique de Bourgogne;" it is 1 foot long, 4 inches wide, by rather more than 2 inches thick. It is burnt to a very high degree. The colour is a pale rose, leaning towards the violet. The thousand weigh about 2½ tons. Rondelet found that the force necessary to crush them varied between 73 lb. and 80 lb. per centimetre square.

The bricks made at Montereau are very nearly as good as the briques de Bourgogne; they are of the same size and colour; resist nearly as well. The thousand only weighs 2 tons ½ cwt.†

The bricks of Sarcelles are those most used, but they are extremely brittle: they are about 8 inches long by 4 inches by 2 inches; the thousand weigh nearly 1 ton 14 cwt.

Some bricks are made of the clays which occur in the gypseous formations immediately round Paris. They resemble those of Montereau in quality, but differ a little in colour, being of a deeper red, and they are rather thinner and narrower. The thousand weighs 1 ton 18 cwt.‡

In the neighbourhood of Bonnieres, in the valley of the Seine, a mass of clay occurred, from which the white bricks used on the Paris

* See page 327, *ante*.

† The composition of the Montereau clay is as follows:—

Silex, per cent.	0·644
Alumina	0·246
Magnesia	—
Oxide of iron	trace
Water	0·100
	0·990

‡ The composition of the St. Ouen and Pantin clays is as follows:—

	St. Ouen.	Pantin.
Silex, per cent.	0·510	0·506
Alumina	0·140	0·165
Magnesia	0·134	0·072
Oxide of iron	0·036	0·057
Water	0·180	0·200

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